

APPENDIX A

GLOSSARY AND ABBREVIATIONS

A

AC - Advisory Circular published by the Federal Aviation Administration.

ADPM - Average Day of the Peak Month

AIRCRAFT MIX - The relative percentage of operations conducted at an airport by each of four classes of aircraft differentiated by gross takeoff weight and number of engines.

AIRCRAFT TYPES - An arbitrary classification system, which identifies and groups aircraft having similar operational characteristics for the purpose of computing runway capacity.

AIR NAVIGATIONAL FACILITY (NAVAID) - Any facility used for guiding or controlling flight in the air or during the landing or takeoff of aircraft.

AIR TAXI - Aircraft operated by a company or individual that performs air transportation on a non-scheduled basis over unspecified routes usually with light aircraft.

AIRPORT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC USE - An airport available for use by the public, with or without a prior request.

ALP - Airport Layout Plan

AGL - Above Ground Level

ALS - Approach Light System

APPROACH SLOPE - Imaginary areas extending out and away from the approach ends of runways which are to be kept clear of obstructions.

APPROACH SURFACE - An element of the airport imaginary surfaces, longitudinally centered on the extended runway centerline, extending upward and outward from the end of the primary surface at a designated slope.

ASV - Annual Service Volume - a reasonable estimate of the airfield's annual capacity.

ATCT - Airport Traffic Control Tower

ATC - Air Traffic Control

AVIGATION AND HAZARD EASEMENT - An easement which provides right of flight at any altitude above the approach surface, prevents any obstruction above the approach surface, provides a right to cause noise vibrations, prohibits the creation of electrical interference, and grants right-of-way entry to remove trees or structures above the approach surface.

B

BASED AIRCRAFT - An aircraft permanently stationed at the airport, usually by some form of agreement between the aircraft owner and airport management.

BIT - Bituminous Asphalt Pavement

C

CY - Calendar Year

CAT I - Category I Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: decision height of 200 feet; Runway visual range 1,800 feet).

CAT II - Category II Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: decision height of 100 feet; Runway visual range 1,200 feet).

CAT III - Category III Instrument Landing System. (Minimums: no decision height; Runway visual range of from 0 to 700 feet depending on type of CAT III facility).

CIRCLING APPROACH - A maneuver initiated by the pilot to align the aircraft with a runway for landing when a straight-in instrument approach is not possible. This maneuver requires ATC clearance and that the pilots establish visual reference to the airport.

CL - Centerline

CONC. - Portland Cement Concrete Pavement

CONICAL SURFACE - An imaginary surface extending upward and outward from the periphery of the horizontal surface at a slope of 20 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 4,000 feet.

CONTROLLED AREA - Airspace within which some or all aircraft may be subject to air traffic control.

CONTROL TOWER - A central operations facility in the terminal air traffic control system consisting of a tower cab structure (including an associated IFR room if radar equipped) using air/ground communications and/or radar, visual signaling and other devices to provide safe and expeditious movement of terminal air traffic.

CONTROL ZONES - These are areas of controlled airspace which extend upward from the surface and terminate at the base of the continental control area. Control zones that do not underlie the continental control area have no upper limit. A control zone may include one or more airports and is normally a circular area with a radius of 5 statute miles of any extensions necessary to include instrument departure and arrival paths.

CONTROLLED AIRSPACE - An airspace of defined dimensions within which air traffic control service is provided to IFR flights and to VFR flights in accordance with the airspace classification, Class A, Class B, etc.

CROSSWIND RUNWAY - A runway aligned at an angle to the prevailing wind, which allows use of an airport when crosswind conditions on the primary runway would otherwise restrict use.

D

DECISION HEIGHT (DH) - With respect to the operation of aircraft, this means the height at which a decision must be made, using an ILS or PAR instrument approach, to either continue the approach or to execute a missed approach.

DISTANCE MEASURING EQUIPMENT (DME) - An electronic installation established with either a VOR or ILS to provide distance information from the facility to pilots by reception of electronic signals. It measures, in nautical miles, the distance of an aircraft from a NAVAID.

E

ENROUTE - The route of flight from point of departure to point of destination, including intermediate stops (excludes local operations).

ENROUTE AIRSPACE - Controlled airspace above and/or adjacent to terminal airspace.

F

F&E - Facilities and Equipment Programming - FAA

FAA - Federal Aviation Administration of the United States Department of Transportation

FAR - Federal Aviation Regulation

FAR Part 77 - A regulation establishing standards for determining obstructions to navigable airspace.

FBO - Fixed Base Operator

FEDERAL AIRWAYS - See Low Altitude Airways.

FINAL APPROACH IFR - The flight plan of landing aircraft in the direction of landing along the extended runway centerline from the base leg to the runway.

FLEET MIX - The proportion of aircraft types or models expected to operate at an airport.

FLIGHT SERVICE STATION (FSS) - A facility operated by the FAA to provide flight assistance service.

FY - Fiscal Year

G

GA - General Aviation - Refers to all civil aircraft and operations which are not classified as air carrier.

GLIDE SLOPE (GS) - The vertical guidance component of an Instrument Landing System (ILS).

GPS - Global Positioning System.

H

HIGH ALTITUDE AIRWAYS - See Jet Routes.

HIRL - High Intensity Runway Lighting

HOLDING - A predetermined maneuver which keeps an aircraft within a specified airspace while awaiting further clearance.

HORIZONTAL SURFACE - An imaginary surface constituting a horizontal plane 150 feet above the airport elevation.

I

IFR - Instrument Flight Rules that govern flight procedures under IFR conditions (limited visibility or other operational constraints).

IMAGINARY SURFACE - An area established in relation to the airport and to each runway consistent with FAR Part 77 in which any object extending above these imaginary surfaces is, by definition, an obstruction.

INSTRUMENT APPROACH - A series of predetermined maneuvers for the orderly transfer of an aircraft under instrument flight conditions from the beginning of the initial approach to a landing or to a point from which a landing may be made visually.

INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEM (ILS) - A precision landing aid consisting of localizer (azimuth guidance), glide slope (vertical guidance), outer marker (final approach fix) and approach light system.

INSTRUMENT OPERATION - A landing or takeoff conducted while operating on an instrument flight plan.

INSTRUMENT RUNWAY - A runway equipped with electronic and visual navigation aids for which a precision or non-precision approach procedure having straight-in landing minimums has been established.

ITINERANT OPERATIONS - All aircraft arrivals and departures other than local operations.

J

JET ROUTES - A route designed to serve aircraft operating from 18,000 feet MSL up to and including flight level 450.

L

LAT - Latitude

LDA - Localizer Type Directional Aid

LIRL - Low Intensity Runway Lighting

LOC - Localizer (part of a ILS)

LOCAL OPERATION - Operations performed by aircraft which: (a) operate in the local traffic pattern or within the sight of the tower; (b) are known to be departing for, or arriving from, flight in local practice areas located within a 20-mile radius of the control tower, or (c) execute simulated instrument approaches or low passes at the airport.

LOM - Compass locator at an outer marker (part of an ILS). Also call COMLO.

LONG - Longitude

LOW ALTITUDE AIRWAYS - Air routes below 18,000 feet MSL. They are referred to as Federal Airways.

LRR - Long-Range Radar

M

MALS - Medium Intensity Approach Light System

MALSF - Medium Intensity Approach Light System with sequence flashing lights.

MALSR - MALS with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (RAIL)

MARKER BEACON - An electronic navigation facility, which transmits a fan or bone-shaped radiation, pattern. When received by compatible airborne equipment they indicate to the pilot that he is passing over the facility. Two to three beacons are used to advise pilots of their position during an ILS approach.

MASTER PLAN - Long-range plan of airport development requirements.

MGW - Maximum Gross Weight

MILITARY OPERATION - An operation by military aircraft.

MINIMUM DESCENT ALTITUDE (MDA) - The lowest altitude, expressed in feet above mean sea level, to which descent is authorized on final approach or during circling-to-land maneuvering in execution of a standard instrument approach procedure where no electronic glide slope is provided.

MIRL - Medium Intensity Runway Lighting

MISSED APPROACH - A prescribed procedure to be followed by aircraft that cannot complete an attempted landing at an airport.

MITL - Medium Intensity Taxiway Lighting

MLS - Microwave Landing System

MM - Middle Marker (part of an ILS)

MOA - Military Operations Area

MSL - Mean Sea Level

N

NA - Not applicable

NAS - NATIONAL AIRSPACE SYSTEM - The common system or air navigation and air traffic encompassing communications facilities, air navigation facilities, airways, controlled airspace, special use airspace and flight procedures authorized by Federal Aviation Regulations for domestic and international aviation.

NAVAID - See Air Navigation Facility.

NDB - NON-DIRECTIONAL BEACON - An electronic ground station transmitting in all directions in the L/MF frequency spectrum; provides azimuth guidance to aircraft equipped with direction finder receivers. These facilities are often established with ILS outer markers to provide transition guidance to the ILS system.

NEPA - National Environmental Policy Act

NM - Nautical Mile

NOISE ABATEMENT - A procedure for the operation of aircraft at an airport which minimizes the impact of noise on the environs of the airport.

NOISE CONTOUR - A noise impact boundary line connecting points on a map where the level of sound is the same.

NON-PRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure in which no electronic glide slope is provided.

NPI - Non-Precision Instrument Runway

NPIAS - National Plan of Integrated Airport Systems.

O

OBSTRUCTION - Any structure, growth, or other object, including a mobile object, that exceeds a limiting height established by federal regulations or by a hazard zoning regulation.

OM - Outer Marker (part of an ILS)

OPERATING SPEED - The maximum average speed for a given set of roadway and traffic conditions.

OPERATION - An aircraft arrival at or departure from an airport.

OUTER FIX - A point in the destination terminal area from which aircraft are cleared to the approach fix or final approach course.

P

PAPI - Precision Approach Path Indicator

PAR - Precision Approach Radar

POSITIVE CONTROL - The separation of all air traffic within designated airspace by air traffic control.

PRECISION APPROACH - A standard instrument approach procedure in which an electronic glideslope/glidepath is provided; e.g., ILS/MLS and PAR.

PRIMARY RUNWAY - The runway on which the majority of operations take place. On large, busy airports, there may be two or more parallel primary runways.

PRIMARY SURFACE - An area longitudinally centered on a runway with a width ranging from 250 to 1000 feet and extending 200 feet beyond the end of a paved runway.

PROHIBITED AREA - Airspace of defined dimensions identified by an area on the surface of the earth within flight is prohibited.

R

RADAR SEPARATION - Radar spacing of aircraft in accordance with established minima.

RAIL - Runway Alignment Indicator Lights

REIL - Runway End Identification Lights

RESTRICTED AREAS - Airspace of defined dimensions identified by an area on the surface of the earth within which the flight of aircraft, while not wholly prohibited, is subject to restrictions.

RNAV - See Area Navigation.

ROTATING BEACON - A visual NAVAID displaying flashes of white and/or colored light used to indicate location of an airport.

RUNWAY SAFETY AREA - An area symmetrical about the runway centerline and extending beyond the ends of the runway which shall be free of obstacles as specified.

S

SALS - Short Approach Light System

SDF - Simplified Directional Facility landing aid providing final approach course.

SEGMENTED CIRCLE - An airport aid identifying the traffic pattern direction.

SEPARATION MINIMA - The minimum longitudinal, lateral, or vertical distances by which aircraft are spaced through the application of air traffic control procedures.

SSALF - Simplified Short Approach Light System with Sequence Flashing lights.

SSALS - Simplified Short Approach Light System.

SSALR - Simplified Short Approach Light System with Runway Alignment Indicator Lights (RAIL)

STANDARD LAND USE CODING MANUAL (SLUCM) - A standard system for identifying and coding land use activities published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Highway Administration.

STRAIGHT-IN APPROACH - A descent in an approved procedure in which the final approach course alignment and descent gradient permits authorization of straight-in landing minimums.

STOL - Short Takeoff and Landing

STOVL - Short Takeoff Vertical Landing

T

TACAN - Tactical Air Navigation

TERMINAL AIRSPACE - The controlled airspace normally associated with aircraft departure and arrival patterns to/from airports within a terminal system and between adjacent terminal systems in which tower enroute air traffic control service is provided.

TERMINAL CONTROL AREA (TCA) - This consists of controlled airspace extending upward from the surface or higher to specified altitudes within which all aircraft are subject to positive air traffic control procedures.

TERPS - Terminal Instrument Procedures

THRESHOLD - The beginning of that portion of the runway usable for landing.

TOUCH-AND-GO OPERATION - An operation in which the aircraft lands and begins takeoff roll without stopping.

TRAFFIC PATTERN - The traffic flow that is prescribed for aircraft landing at, taxiing on, and taking off from an airport. The usual components of a traffic pattern are upwind leg, crosswind leg, downwind leg and final approach.

TRANSIENT OPERATIONS - See Itinerant Operations.

TRANSITION SURFACE - An element of the imaginary surfaces extending outward at right angles to the runway centerline and from the sides of the primary and approach surfaces to where they intersect the horizontal and conical surfaces.

TRANSITIONAL AIRSPACE - That portion of controlled airspace wherein aircraft change from one phase of flight or flight condition to another.

TVOR - Terminal Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Station

U

UHF - Ultra High Frequency

UNICOM - Radio communications station which provides pilots with pertinent airport information (winds, weather, etc.) at specific airports.

UTILITY RUNWAY - A runway intended to be used by propeller driven aircraft of 12,500 pounds maximum gross weight or less.

V

VECTOR - A heading issued to an aircraft to provide navigational guidance by radar.

VFR - Visual Flight Rules that govern flight procedures in good weather.

VFR AIRCRAFT - An aircraft conducting flight in accordance with Visual Flight Rules.

VHF - Very High Frequency

VISUAL APPROACH RUNWAY - A runway intended for visual approaches only.

VOR - Very High Frequency Omnidirectional Station. A ground-based radio (electronic) navigation aid transmitting radials in all directions in the VHF frequency spectrum; provides azimuth guidance to pilots by reception of electronic signals.

VORTAC - Co-located VOR and TACAN.

V/STOL - Vertical/Short Takeoff and Landing

VTOL - Vertical Takeoff and Landing (includes, but is not limited to, helicopters).

W

WARNING AREA - Airspace which may contain hazards to non-participating aircraft in international airspace.

WIND CONE (WIND SOCK) - Conical wind directional indicator.

WIND TEE - A visual device used to advise pilots about wind direction at an airport.